

BANKERS DO NOT WANT POST-OFFICE MOVED

Financiers Ask Department Officials
to Purchase Property Adjoining
Federal Building.

PETITION SECRETARY MADDOO

Views of Bankers Strongly Indorsed
at Meeting of Board of Richmond
Chamber of Commerce—Other Or-
ganizations Favor Acquisition.

Directors of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, meeting in special session yesterday afternoon, approved a petition addressed to William G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, and signed by all of the banks in the city, asking that the post-office be moved to the Federal building in order that the post-office be enlarged to furnish adequate facilities.

Nearly a year ago the Chamber made known to Federal authorities that it favored the acquisition of property adjoining the post-office rather than the purchase of ground at the corner of Main and Eighth Streets, at either possible site for a post-office building which has been suggested. The board instructed its secretary to forward the petition, bearing the indorsement of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, to Secretary McAdoo. This was done last night. Richmond banks signing the petition were: American National Bank, Merchants' National Bank, Virginia Trust Company, First National Bank, Savings Bank of Richmond, Union Bank of Richmond, Broadway National Bank, National State and City Bank, Bank of Commerce and Trusts, Planters' National Bank, Merchants and Mechanics Bank, Manchester National Bank, Church Hill Bank, the Richmond Real Estate Exchange, Travelers' Protective Association and the Business Men's Club have already endorsed the petition asking that the property adjoining the present post-office building be purchased.

EXPECT DISCUSSION ON SITE IN NEAR FUTURE

Decision by the postal and Treasury Department officials in the matter of selecting a site for additional post-office facilities here is expected within the near future. Inspectors from the Post-Office Department have been here looking over the ground and studying general business conditions as they relate to additional post-office facilities and facilities. The contents of the report made by the inspectors to Postal Department officials have not been made public, although Washington press dispatches have indicated that the report would recommend the purchase of property for a site at the corner of Main and Eighth Streets. It is recognized that in any event the growth of the parcel post business will necessitate the erection of warehouses near the railway stations for express business.

The selection of any site for the erection of a post-office other than the one adjacent to the Federal Building would involve the erection of an entire new post-office building. Should the property adjoining the Federal Building be purchased, the erection of an annex to the present building would, it is believed, afford ample facilities for handling the rapidly increasing business of the Richmond post-office.

The chamber board of directors at its session yesterday passed a resolution pledging the support of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce to Representative Montague and others in an effort to secure a larger appropriation for the maintenance and improvement of the James River channel. In the discussion it was pointed out that the commerce on the James River justifies the expenditure of larger sums of money by the government, and that this route of trade is one of vital importance to a large area of country. The meeting yesterday afternoon was called primarily for the purpose of hearing objections from the Retail Merchants' Association regarding the attitude of the Chamber of Commerce toward the application of the Virginia Railway and Power Company, for authority to revise its rates for light and power to consumers.

To-Day and To-Night in Richmond

South Richmond Democratic Club, fraternal Hall, 8:20 o'clock.
Christmas Entertainment, Young Women's Christian Association, 8:30 o'clock.
Richmond Society of Engineers, adjourned city planning, Major Joseph W. Shirley, chief engineer of the Federal Survey Commission of Baltimore, Mechanics' Institute, 8:15 o'clock.
Common Council, called to order to set on o'clock for unemployed, City Hall, 8 o'clock.

The Weather

Forecast: Virginia—Fair Friday and probably Saturday, slowly rising temperature.
North Carolina—Cloudy Friday and probably Saturday.

Local Temperature Yesterday.
12 noon temperature, 42°
5 P. M. temperature, 42°
Maximum temperature, 42°
Minimum temperature, 32°
Mean temperature, 37°
Normal temperature, 43°
Deficiency in temperature yesterday, 6°
Deficiency in temperature since January 1, 1914, 271°
Accumulated deficiency in temperature since January 1, 1914, 290°

Local Rainfall Yesterday.
Rainfall last twenty-four hours, .None
Accumulated rainfall since January 1, 1914, 0.59
Accumulated deficiency in rainfall since January 1, 1914, 9.75

Local Observations at S. P. M. Yesterday.
Temperature, 22°; humidity, 55°; wind, direction, northeast; wind velocity, 6; weather, clear.

CONDITIONS IN IMPORTANT CITIES.
(At 8 P. M. Eastern Standard Time.)
Asheville, 10°; Clear.
Atlanta, 10°; Clear.
Baltimore, 10°; Clear.
Boston, 10°; Clear.
Buffalo, 10°; Clear.
Chicago, 10°; Clear.
Cincinnati, 10°; Clear.
Cleveland, 10°; Clear.
Denver, 10°; Clear.
Detroit, 10°; Clear.
Houston, 10°; Clear.
Indianapolis, 10°; Clear.
Jacksonville, 10°; Clear.
Kansas City, 10°; Clear.
Louisville, 10°; Clear.
Memphis, 10°; Clear.
Miami, 10°; Clear.
Milwaukee, 10°; Clear.
Minneapolis, 10°; Clear.
New Orleans, 10°; Clear.
New York, 10°; Clear.
Philadelphia, 10°; Clear.
Pittsburgh, 10°; Clear.
Portland, 10°; Clear.
San Francisco, 10°; Clear.
Seattle, 10°; Clear.
St. Louis, 10°; Clear.
St. Paul, 10°; Clear.
Spokane, 10°; Clear.
Tampa, 10°; Clear.
Washington, 10°; Clear.
Wichita, 10°; Clear.
Wilmington, 10°; Clear.

December Crop Report, Virginia and United States

Final estimate of acreage, production and price, December 1, in the State, and production and price in the United States. (Acreage and production in thousands, i. e., 000 omitted.)

		Virginia.			United States.	
		Average.	Production.	Price December 1.	Production.	Price December 1.
Corn	1914	1,921	39,380	81	2,672,804	63.7
	1913	1,850	31,430	76	2,446,588	69.1
Wheat	1914	779	11,296	108	891,017	98.6
	1913	780	10,608	96	762,330	79.9
Oats	1914	191	2,960	58	1,141,060	43.8
	1913	195	4,192	52	1,121,768	39.2
Barley	1914	11	286	80	194,953	54.3
	1913	11	286	70	178,189	53.7
Rye	1914	58	754	90	42,779	86.5
	1913	58	713	81	41,381	63.4
Buckwheat	1914	23	416	84	16,881	76.1
	1913	23	531	80	13,833	75.5
Flaxseed	1914	1	1	1	15,559	1.26
	1913	1	1	1	17,853	1.20
Rice	1914	1	1	1	23,649	92.4
	1913	1	1	1	25,711	85.8
Potatoes	1914	112	7,280	77	105,921	48.9
	1913	165	9,870	80	331,525	68.7
Sweet Potatoes	1914	31	2,852	76	56,571	73.0
	1913	33	3,564	70	59,057	72.6
Hay	1914	650	168	17.29	70,971	11.12
	1913	750	592	15.50	64,116	12.43
Tobacco	1914	175	113,750	9.0	1,034,679	9.8
	1913	200	154,000	13.9	953,734	12.8
Cotton	1914	45	24	7.3	15,966	6.8
	1913	47	23	13.1	14,156	12.2
Sugar Beets	1914	17	23	13.1	5,147	5.43
	1913	17	23	13.1	5,659	5.69

Quantities of hay and sugar beets in tons; tobacco in pounds; cotton in bales; other products in bushels. Prices for hay and beets in dollars per ton; cotton and tobacco, cents per pound; flaxseed, dollars per bushel; other products, cents per bushel.

Wheat sown this fall in the State, 1,270,000 acres, compared with 794,000 acres last year; condition, 93 per cent of normal, compared with ten-year average of 88. Similarly, in the United States, 14,300,000 acres, compared with 17,100,000 acres sown last year; condition, 88.3 per cent, compared with 90.3 the ten year average.

RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF NEW GAS ORDINANCE

Committee Reports Measure Designed
to Relieve Owners of
Property.

URGED BY REAL ESTATE MEN

Amended Law Releases Agents and
Owners From Responsibility for
Gas Bills of Tenants—Compensatory
Legislation Is Suggested.

The Council Committee on Ordinances last night, by a unanimous vote, recommended for passage an amended ordinance reported by the City Attorney, which will have the effect of relieving owners of property from liability for the payment of delinquent gas bills of their tenants. Under the present law, the Gas Department declines to turn on gas in any house against which a delinquent gas bill is outstanding, and the result is that property owners are forced to satisfy the city's claim before a succeeding tenant can obtain gas.

A movement inaugurated more than a year ago by the Real Estate Exchange has been directed toward relieving property owners from this liability. It met opposition from the Gas Department, which feared a large increase in delinquencies, and the present safeguard is removed. An ordinance carrying the exchange into effect was introduced by Councilman English, and several public hearings on it were held by the Ordinance Committee.

At the last meeting of the committee the measure was sent back to the City Attorney with the request that he incorporate a provision which would allow the use of gas to a new tenant of a house, under the usual restrictions as to deposit, regardless of whether the preceding tenant had left an unpaid bill or not. As drawn, the ordinance was not clear on this point.

DELINQUENT TENANT CANNOT OBTAIN GAS

The measure reported to the committee by the City Attorney last night carries a provision to this effect, and provides further that no gas shall be turned on anywhere in the city for the use of a tenant who is delinquent to the Gas Department until such delinquency is satisfied. The amended ordinance was unanimously recommended for passage, and it is expected, will shortly become law.

The committee has left to the authorities of the Gas Department the task of recommending such additional legislation as may be needed to compensate the department for the loss of the guarantee that has been given it since before 1868 by the property owners. Under the present ordinance, the department is given a free hand to establish such rules for safeguarding the payment of gas bills as it deems practicable.

CONDITION UNIMPROVED

Mrs. R. L. Shelton, Shot by Her Husband, Is at Virginia Hospital.
The condition of Mrs. R. L. Shelton, 523 Haynes Avenue, Brookland Park, who was shot through the jaw by her husband early Thursday night following a quarrel in their home, was last night reported as little, if any, improved at the Virginia Hospital. She remains in a state of semi-consciousness, being conscious only at infrequent intervals. The broken jaw prevents her talking. Shelton, who told a reporter of the paper that she shot her wife because she was constantly nagging him, was last night reported to be apparently well at the City Jail. He suffered a collapse some time after the shooting. Shelton will be the subject for a hearing without bond for a preliminary hearing in the Police Court on December 30.

Message to Non-Christians

The Message of Christ to the Non-Christian will be the subject for a lecture in the Bible class to be held by Miss Katherine H. Hawes this morning at 11 o'clock at the Virginia Women's Christian Association building.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.
December 18, 1914.
Sun rises, 7:21
Sun sets, 4:53
Moon rises, 1:21
Moon sets, 11:21

DIVIDEND REDUCED BY ATLANTIC COAST LINE

Directors, at Adjourned Meeting,
Declare Semiannual Payment
of 2½ Per Cent.

STOCKHOLDERS ARE GRATIFIED

Failure to Act Last Month Caused
Considerable Uneasiness, Which
Has Been Alleviated—L. & N. Also
Suffers Reduction.

While unable to maintain the old rate, directors of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, at a meeting yesterday in New York, declared a semiannual dividend of 2½ per cent, payable on January 11, on stock of record December 28. This is a reduction of 1 per cent from the semiannual period ending on July 11, when 3½ per cent was paid.

The meeting yesterday was an adjourned one, and it was confidently believed that a reduction would be made, as the Atlantic Coast Line, in common with other Southern roads, has been hit hard by the trouble experienced in marketing the cotton crop and other losses brought on by the European war. That the reduction was not less is a source of much gratification to holders of the stock, who saw, in the failure of the directors to act when they met last month, that a reduction was inevitable.

Not since 1907 has the dividend rate for the Atlantic Coast Line been so small. The last previous dividend of 2½ per cent was declared six years ago, following the panic of that time. The stock then was on a 6 per cent basis, but was reduced to 5½ per cent for the fiscal year of 1908. In May, 1909, the rate was restored to 6 per cent, 3 per cent being declared for the semiannual period, which was increased to 3½ per cent in November of that year. This 7 per cent rate has been in force since then, up to the meeting yesterday.

The dividend on Louisville and Nashville Railroad stock was also cut 1 per cent semiannually at the meeting yesterday. This line is declared by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, and has been on a 7 per cent basis since 1910.

Breaks Foot in Boarding Car.

Wesley Arnold, 1321 North Twenty-fourth Street, was dragged by a street car for nearly a half block near Twenty-fourth and Venable Streets early yesterday morning, and as a result suffered a compound fracture of the left foot. Confusion on the part of the driver of a passing wagon and the conductor was responsible for the accident. It is said that Arnold was taken to Grace Hospital for treatment.

Morning, Noon and Night—HOLISM Pan Biscuits.

The Store of Exquisite Gifts

The gifts that show real thoughtfulness are the ones that are distinctive—different!

Such gifts are found in profusion here.

Let us show you to-day. Don't wait until the stocks are "picked over."

Lumsden's
751 MAIN ST. EAST

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SIXTY PAUPER COUNTIES PAY NOTHING TO STATE

Support of Commonwealth Carried
by Nineteen Cities and
Forty Counties.

RICHMOND PAYS ONE-SIXTH

Rich, Prosperous Counties Have Such
Low Assessments That Their Taxes
Do Not Equal Special Charges on
Their Behalf.

Sixty Virginia counties contributed not one cent last year toward the support of the State government or the payment of the public debt. The burden of supporting the Commonwealth fell on forty counties and nineteen cities. The city of Richmond paid to the State over and above all expenditures by the State on its behalf, \$870,915.97, or nearly one-sixth of the gross annual revenue of the State.

If any argument were needed to convince any fair-minded man of the urgent necessity for drastic revision of the tax laws of Virginia, says Auditor Moore, it is to be found in the statistics accompanying the annual report of his department, which came from the printer yesterday. When large, wealthy counties like Bedford, Patrick and Rockbridge allow themselves to be listed among the pauper and smaller counties such as James City, Surry and Bath, take more than their share of the burden, and the cities which are cheerfully outvoted in very session of the General Assembly are yet left to pay the bills. It would appear that the time has come for the State to revise its financial policy.

SOME PROSPEROUS COUNTIES

IN LIST OF "PAUPERS"

The report of State Auditor Moore shows that the following so-called pauper counties actually drew from the State Treasury for schools, criminal charges, roads, fees to county officers and pensions more than they paid in from general and special taxes:

Amelia, Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Bland, Botetourt, Buchanan, Buckingham, Campbell, Caroline, Carroll, Charles City, Charlotte, Craig, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dickenson, Dinwiddie, Essex, Floyd, Fluvanna, Franklin, Giles, Gloucester, Goodland, Grayson, Greene, Halifax, Henric, Isle of Wight, King George, King and Queen, King William, Lee, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mathews, Mecklenburg, Middlesex, Nansemond, Nelson, New Kent, Northampton, Orange, Page, Patrick, Petersburg, Powhatan, Pulaski, Rappahannock, Richmond, Rockbridge, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Warren, Washington, York.

THE HONOR ROLL OF HONEST COUNTIES

Those counties which have a more nearly fair assessment of real estate and personal property, and so are assuming their part in the support of the State government are:

Accomac, Albemarle, Alexandria, Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Brunswick, Chesterfield, Clarke, Elizabeth City, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Greensville, Hanover, Henrico, Highland, James City, Lancaster, Loudoun, Montgomery, Norfolk, Northampton, Northumberland, Orange, Prince Edward, Prince George, Princess Anne, Prince William, Rappahannock, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Southampton, Surry, Sussex, Tazewell, Warwick, Westmoreland, Wise, Wythe.

Charged With Stealing Coal.

James Dabney, colored, was yesterday arrested by Bicycle Policeman Miller on a charge of stealing a lot of coal from Maloney & Martin.

Strand Appointed.

Governor Stuart yesterday appointed A. J. Strand, of Norfolk, to succeed Henry Lane Schmelz, of Hampton, deceased, as a member of the Board of Curators for the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute.

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This Columbia Grafonola

Favorite

\$59.50

With Complete Set of Records.

\$1.00 Weekly

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WILL INCREASE CITY TAX ON HEAVY MOTOR TRUCKS

Ordinance Committee Favors Charge
of \$25 Per Annum on Three-
Ton Carriers.

FOR HOME TOWN PAPER STANDS

Ordinance Recommended Relieving
Their Proprietor From Perpetual
Interference of Police—City to Be
Divided Into New School Districts.

An amendment to the present regulations governing motor trucks, recommended to the Council for passage last night by the Ordinance Committee, imposes an annual license tax of \$25 on motor trucks three tons or more in capacity. Trucks of between one and three tons capacity are taxed \$15 a year, and those with capacities of one ton and less are taxed \$10 a year. The present ordinance imposes a uniform tax of \$10, regardless of capacity.

A new provision imposes a tax of \$5 a year upon cycle vans, the new three-wheeled motor deliveries that have become popular with department stores and other establishments for light delivery purposes. At the time the present ordinance was framed this vehicle was unknown.

FAVOR STANDS FOR

HOME-TOWN PAPERS

Another measure recommended by the committee for passage allows the Administrative Board, with the permission of the property owners in question, to grant a permit for the maintenance of sidewalk stands for the sale of local and out-of-town papers. The permit is to be subject to revocation by the board or Council.

This legislation was inspired by the trouble encountered recently by H. B. Milestone, local manager of a "home town" paper company, in establishing newspaper stands at Tenth and Main Streets and Seventh and Broad Streets. Mr. Milestone was repeatedly summoned to the Police Court to answer a charge of violating the ordinance against obstructing the sidewalks, although other obstructions were passed by unnoticed. Several charges of this character are still pending against him.

In support of the remedial measure appeared Business Manager W. T. Dabney, of the Chamber of Commerce, through whose initiative the "home town" paper enterprise was established in this city. Mr. Milestone thanked the committee for its consideration, expressing the belief that the business

Lime Combats Tuberculosis

It is difficult to escape the conviction that lime starvation and lime accumulation are the real cause of the malady of tuberculosis, writes Dr. Van Gleason, N. D. in the May 11, 1914 issue of the New York "Medical Record."

Dr. Van Gleason is eminent in his profession, and his assertion that lime assimilation is the "real issue" in resistance to tuberculosis bears the stamp of authority.

Ordinarily lime is not easily assimilated, medicinally, but Eckman's alternative is one preparation containing it in such form and combination as to insure assimilation by the average person.

This is one reason for its success in many cases of tuberculosis which apparently have yielded to it and others which have benefited through its use.

Our experience-based faith in this remedy is shared by a large number of men and women, who say they owe health, strength and life to it. It contains no opiates, narcotics or habit-forming drugs, so is safe to try.

If your druggist is out of it, he can get it, or you can order direct from us.

Eckman Laboratory, Philadelphia.

Sold by Trangle Drug Co., Richmond, Va.

of supplying out-of-town papers in Richmond, as yet in its infancy and comparatively unimportant, may be developed to encouraging proportions.

DIVIDE CITY INTO

NEW SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The committee voted to recommend to the Council for passage an ordinance embodying the recommendations of the School Board for a division of the enlarged city into three school districts. The City Attorney was directed to prepare an ordinance carrying into effect the desires of the School Board in this respect, to be forwarded to the Council.

A petition presented by John A. Hutcheson asked that the name of Shenandoah Street in Monument Avenue Park be changed to Hutcheson Avenue. The locality, the committee was told, was intimately associated with the petitioner's ancestors, and it was his desire to have the name perpetuated by changing the designation of the street. The committee recommended the passage of an ordinance carrying the desired change into effect.

FIRE PREVENTION

ORDINANCE TABLED